

## **Alton Cycling Club**

Minutes of the 38<sup>th</sup> AGM held Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at Alton Rugby Club.  
The meeting was attended by 28 members.

### **1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from four members.

### **2. Minutes of the 2016 AGM**

Read and approved by those in attendance.

### **3. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising, all actions having been completed. Mike Hayward observed that more help from members to run the Thursday evening time trials is always needed.

### **4. Reports**

#### **Chairman's Report**

The Chairman's report is attached as Appendix A. Mike Hayward read out an email from Rick Froud who holds a number of club records and is now leaving Alton CC because he has left the area. Mike Hayward wished Rick well.

#### **General Secretary's Report**

The General Secretary's report is attached as Appendix B.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's report and club accounts are attached as Appendix C. John Heath proposed that the club subscriptions be raised to £12.50 for seniors and to £6.00 for over 65s / juniors. Members asked if the increase was sufficient and John affirmed that it was but the rate would be kept under review. Ian Cargill commented that the club subscription was £12 some twenty five years ago. The reduced rate for over 65s was questioned and it was noted that some over 65s voluntarily paid the full senior rate. Sarah Williams seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

The level of club funds was discussed and John Heath said they were adequate to cover anticipated financial risk. Members were encouraged to put expenditure proposals forward for consideration.

#### **Racing Secretary's Report**

The Racing Secretary's report is attached as Appendix D. Ian Austin elaborated on the proposed hilly event and said it was intended to attract a wider range of competitors.

Ian noted that evening 10 entries fallen, in part due to a3crg holding open events on Wednesday evenings. Responding to a suggestion that Alton CC evening events be made open Ian said that this was too large an undertaking given club resources and available volunteers.

Pete Remnant questioned event safety at the start especially for the push-off. Mike Hayward responded that increased signage and hi-vis jackets had made the start more visible. It was noted that a rider's start should be delayed to the next minute if there were dangerous traffic conditions. Ian Cargill noted that the start had been moved from the Hen and Chicken for safety reasons. Mike said that the decision to start all evening time trials at 7:00pm had been

made because traffic flow was reduced. Section 7 of these minutes records the discussion concerning 25 mile time trial events.

Ian Austin stated that he was standing down from the committee. Mike Hayward thanked Ian for all his work as Racing Secretary.

### **Publicity Secretary's Report**

The Publicity Secretary's report is attached as Appendix E. Jim Woods said that he occasionally circulated material of wider interest. The meeting agreed that the number and type of emails from Jim was a good balance.

Guy Henshaw reminded the meeting that the Strava app was well used by club members (54 in total) and that the Strava Challenge had attracted 15 competitors. It was suggested that routes be shared on Strava although some Sunday ride leaders prefer not to share their route before the ride.

It was suggested that Facebook be used and Jim requested that a club member take this on since he could not. Andy Watson said he would add information on the Alton CC What's App group to the Sunday rides web page.

## **5. Election of Officers**

All current members of the committee, except for Ian Austen offered themselves for re-election. Iain Cotton put himself forward for the position of Racing Secretary. No other nominations were received. Committee members were elected as follows:

Position	Proposer	Seconded
Chairman: Mike Hayward	Guy Henshaw	Ian Cargill
General Sec: Andy Watson	Caroline Brodie	Frank Pote
Treasurer: John Heath	Guy Henshaw	Dave Sherwood
Racing Sec: Iain Cotton	Chris Clarke	Darren Lavender
Publicity Sec: Jim Woods	Christine Lavender	Frank Pote

## **6. Appointment of Non-Executive Officers**

All current non-executive officers offered themselves for re-appointment. No other nominations were received. Non-executive officers were appointed as follows:

### Position

Welfare Officer: Caroline Brodie

Committee member: Dick Weatherbed

Committee member: Alan Jacob

**There was a break for mince pies and refreshments**

## **7. Agenda Items**

### **Suspension of Alton CC 25 Mile Time Trials on A31**

Mike Hayward outlined the committee concerns about safety on the A31 H25/8 course, particularly with the Coxbridge roundabout. The committee had concluded that the risk of accidents was unacceptable and that Alton CC would not promote an Open 25 and would not

hold Thursday evening club 25 events. Alton CC will continue with 10 mile events on the H10/8 course.

Members asked if alternatives, such as Rushmoor arena, Eelmore circuit, the Candover road and alternative A31 course. Mike Hayward responded that unsuccessful approaches had been made to Lasham and Odiham airfields and that the committee was reluctant to use course or venues that were not local to Alton because attracting riders and volunteers would be even more difficult. Saturday 9:00am starts on the A31 were suggested although there are concerns about traffic levels and getting volunteers.

**Action:** Committee to consider Saturday starts

Mike Hayward stated that Alton CC had introduced safety improvements, i.e. compulsory helmets, rear flashing lights, improved signage and hi-vis jackets for helpers which can be made mandatory for club events. The marshalling arrangements will be kept under review. The committee will look at improvements to signage. It was noted that risk can be reduced but not eliminated.

**Action:** Racing Secretary to review signage and propose improvements

Jim Woods offered to write to the Alton Herald publicising the decision regarding 25 mile time trials. On balance it was agreed that the decision could be better publicised in response to letters in the paper.

#### **Alton CC Rule changes relating to 25 mile events**

Andy Watson said that minor rule changes were required in various club championships now that there are no club 25 mile time trial events. The changes are to allow open 25 time trials to count in the various club championships. Iain Cotton proposed the motion to change the rules and Frank Pote seconded the motion which was carried.

**Action:** General Secretary to publish rule change, members to comment if necessary

#### **Annual Club Dinner & Awards**

Jim Woods reminded the meeting that the annual Alton CC Dinner would be held on Friday 16th February at the Rugby Club. Alan Murchison, World and European Duathlon Champion and Michelin starred chef had been engaged as the guest speaker. The Rugby Club public address system will be used to ensure the speaker can be heard by all. The price of the dinner is expected to be the same as last year and booking information will be sent out in the New Year.

### **8. AOB**

**Cyclo-Cross:** Caroline Brodie asked if Alton CC could promote and organise Cyclo-Cross. Ian Cargill observed that Alton CC used to promote Cyclo-Cross and that making contact with Owen Pattinson and also Wessex Cyclo-Cross could be very helpful. Chawton was mooted as a race venue.

**Action:** Committee to look at adding Cyclo-Cross to club activities

**Club Night Activities:** Caroline Brodie proposed that Club Night talks on the use of Strava, Garmin devices and GPS route and mapping applications be organised.

**Action:** Committee to follow up for early 2018 club nights

**Youth Activities:** The meeting discussed how Alton CC might attract more young riders. Mike Hayward observed that Alton CC recent junior members had left for other race clubs and university. Local schools had been approached for track cycling without response. It was concluded that a Youth Programme, as supported by British Cycling could be attractive but it

required coaching commitment. Sarah Williams suggested a possible coach and Mike Hayward agreed to follow up on this.

**Action:** Chairman to pursue coaching contacts

**Night rides:** Nigel Hicks informed the meetings that he would be organising a night ride around the Isle of Wight for Friday 29th June 2018.

**Smart Trainer Purchase:** Iain Cotton suggested that the club purchase a "Smart Trainer". The meeting agreed that this could be attractive, particularly for club nights allowing members to track their fitness levels and perhaps compete. Ian Cargill made some helpful suggestions regarding appropriate equipment.

**Action:** Racing Secretary to investigate options and report back to the committee

**Publicity:** Freja Halliday inquired about the availability of photos and whether we could make the web site more attractive to potential members. Andy Watson responded that all photos were available through the Alton CC Dropbox archive maintained by Janice Montgomerie but that he would look into how the photos and their availability could be improved..

**Action:** General Secretary to review and improve web site photos

**Sportive Events:** Chris Clarke suggested that Alton CC promote a Sportive or Charity event. It was concluded that organising Sportives was now a commercial enterprise although there may be some interest in organising Audax events.

## 9. Date of Next AGM

The next AGM will take place in December 2018. The date will be confirmed by the committee. The next committee meeting will take place on Monday 5th February 2018.

**Action:** General Secretary to arrange the date of the next AGM.

## **Appendix A: Chairman's Report 2017**

ACC continues to be a flourishing and happy cycling club. In terms of numbers the membership is stable at around the 100 mark and we continue to welcome new riders.

Sunday rides remain the highlight of club life for many members and are often the primary attraction for new members. During the summer we often have 25+ riders out and the 3-ride format had become much better established. Sadly the fast group more recently seems to have rather disintegrated, this will need to be re-established in the New Year. A big vote of thanks to all members who take on the task of ride leader regularly, it is very much appreciated and also to Andy who continues to sort out the rides list.

Racing activity has taken quite a serious downturn. Having stopped running the Hilly event we had planned just 2 other open events, the 10 and 25 run by Charlie Williams and Ian Austin respectively. In the end only the 10 was run and this was very successful, many thanks to Charlie and all of those who helped with marshalling etc. The 25 was cancelled primarily due to road works on a section of the westbound A31. However there were already 2 other factors of concern. Firstly Ian was having trouble, as usual, in recruiting sufficient marshals to allow the event to take place. Secondly following a previous multi-lap event very serious safety concerns re the Coxbridge roundabout were being raised by senior and experienced club members. This matter is on the agenda for discussion later. Our regular summer season TT's on the A31 course all passed off safely but attendance was very well down on previous years probably due to the competition on the A3. This is important not the least because it is an important source of income to the club. Many thanks to Ian for all of his organizational work, to the promoters of the open events. Huge thanks also to the all too small band of helpers for Thurs evenings namely Alan, Dick, Eddy and Jim.

Track cycling last year was again a great success, 16 riders all ACC members 4 sessions all with the same coach as on the model of the previous season. I have been very happy to be able to hand over the organization of this for the current season to Chris Clarke.

We have had a number of excellent social events in addition to our regular club nights The club dinner complete with excellent speaker Tim Moore recruited by Seb at ARFC clubhouse, organized by Alan and Jim; it really was very good and we are repeating the formula again this year. The club BBQ organized Shaun and the excellent Quiz and curry organized by Jim, were brilliant. Club nights have been variable in attendance; we will again seek your views on this.

There have been a few other well attended cycles including, The Watership, the 100 miler, an excellent round the island lead by Shaun, a Surrey Hills led by Freja and of course the excellent Gridiron with at least 12 ACC entrants. We have a good group already entered for next year's London Pru 100.

In addition to the work directly associated with ACC I also lead a cardiac rehab ride weekly and have been assisting along with Di Woods and Janice Montgomery in the promotion of cycling locally.

Finally I must thank all of the committee, Andy as secretary, and John as treasurer have both done excellent jobs. Jim continues to do tremendous work as publicity secretary and Ian as racing secretary. You will gather that Ian intends to stand down as racing sec so we must thank him for all his hard work over the last 2 years. Caroline continues as welfare officer and we all hope that this is a very quiet job but it is important that we know who to go to if there are problems. Alan and Dick continue as ex officio members of the committee and their help and support as with all of the committee members is hugely appreciated.

## **Appendix B: General Secretary's Report 2017**

This year I have attended four committee meetings, producing the agendas and writing the minutes for each of these. I have also coordinated the organisation of this AGM. I would like to thank the other members of the committee for responding in a timely and efficient fashion to meeting actions – this really helps the club to run well.

We finish this year with 100 members compared with 105 in 2015. We have welcomed 19 new members this year, many of whom have been attracted by our regular Sunday rides. We do, of course need to ensure the club remains attractive to newcomers and also meets the needs of the existing members.

During the year I have answered 41 queries received via our web site contact form, often from prospective members. I have handled the administration of affiliations with British Cycling, London West District of CTT (Cycling Time Trials) and supported our racing secretary in the registration of our open time trial events. I have also liaised with Cycling UK (Alton) to coordinate interests of cyclists in Alton.

I have maintained our web site throughout the year. This has included editing the home page to add news items and photos, preparing and administering our Sunday rides lists, providing software for recording our Thursday evening time trial and league results and supporting our racing secretary in publishing the results. I would observe that it is sometimes often difficult to fill all the ride leader slots and I would ask members who have not led rides before to “pick up the baton”.

We do rely on having an interesting and attractive web presence and I would like to encourage all members to send me photos or items of interest for publication on the web site..

**Andy Watson**

## Appendix C: Treasurer's Report 2017

The accounts that have been circulated show this year's figures along with last year's for comparison.

I would like to thank David Sherwood for auditing the figures – my rambling spread sheets probably presented something of a challenge.

Overall we have achieved an increase in funds of £194 – this is much lower than the surplus we have achieved in recent years; certainly the lowest since I took over as Treasurer and I think lower than in Alan's tenure.

The main reasons seem to be:

- **Membership Fees.** Although membership has held up well we recruited more new members in 2015 and therefore the main difference seems to be the loss of those £10 joining fees. This may be a one off phenomenon.
- **Receipts from Club Events.** Numbers of participants in our evening TT events are falling – this will no doubt be discussed further in this meeting, but my expectation is that that trend is unlikely to turn around.
- **Open 25.** As this was not run this year due to the problems on the A31, we lost all the revenue from this event. The future of the 25 will be discussed later in this meeting, but I am not anticipating getting any revenue from the event in the foreseeable future.

Other Points

- **Donations.** £100 of this was a grant towards the cost of our beginner's ride. The net cost to the club of this event was therefore £88.
- **Bank Account Balances.** Although there appears to be a large drop in funds this is simply because some substantial amounts that should have been paid out in 2015/16 were not paid until 2016/17 – these mainly were CTT levies and affiliation fees to CTT and British Cycling. The true increase in our cash assets were £194.24 as shown in the accounts.

I believe that, as a matter of sensible policy, we should show an annual surplus at least in line with inflation. Inflation is rising and our surplus is falling – these trends are likely to continue and although we just about covered inflation this year, I wish to propose an increase in Membership fees. Our membership fees have not increased for at least 5 years and as I recall we actually made a reduction for over 65s a few years ago.

I have done some research on this and have had a look at some fairly local clubs that publish their subs on line. As you can see our fees are substantially lower than most.

Basingstoke	Seniors £20 / Juniors £10
Charlotville	£20
Farnham	£14
N Hants RC	£20

I would like to propose therefore that our subs increase as follows:

- Seniors From £10 to £12.50
- Juniors and over 65s From £5 to £6
- Initial joining fee To remain unchanged at £10 (zero for juniors)

I have the support of the committee for this proposal.

**John Heath**

**Alton CC - Accounts**  
**12 Months to 31/10/2017**

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>+/-</b>
Subs & Application fees	£968.33	£818.04	-£150.29
Donations	£6.00	£108.00	£102.00
Sponsorship	£258.00	£220.00	-£38.00
Net Receipts from Club Events	£249.50	£179.00	-£70.50
Receipts from Open '25'	£232.28	£0.00	-£232.28
Net Receipts from Open '10'	£82.87	£85.06	£2.19
Surplus from Calshot		£65.00	£65.00
Interest on Savings Account	£17.47	£14.10	-£3.37
Quiz Night	£41.74	£30.60	-£11.14
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,856.19</b>	<b>£1,519.80</b>	<b>-£336.39</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
British Cycling Affiliation	£138.00	140.00	-£2.00
CTT Affiliation	£80.00	80.00	£0.00
Loss on Club Dinner	£88.00	119.00	-£31.00
Engraving & Trophies	£234.40	182.49	£51.91
Club Room Hire	£360.00	360.00	£0.00
BBQ Expenses	£75.36	97.50	-£22.14
Charity Donations	£50.00		£50.00
Beginner's Ride Expenses	£100.00	187.99	-£87.99
Admin Expenses	£55.24		£55.24
Club Website Costs	£26.38	50.00	-£23.62
Roller Maintenance	£0.00		
AGM Expenses	£82.25	34.30	£47.95
Handbooks & Membership Cards	£43.90	74.28	-£30.38
Un-paid Cheques	£90.00		
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,423.53</b>	<b>£1,325.56</b>	<b>£7.97</b>
<b>Income over Expenditure</b>	<b>£432.66</b>	<b>£194.24</b>	
<b>Current Balances</b>			
	<b>Opening Bal</b>	<b>Closing Bal</b>	<b>=/-</b>
Bank Account	£2,779.00	£2,107.03	-£671.97
Petty Cash Account	£404.80	£367.06	-£37.74
Deposit Account	£2,346.97	£2,361.07	£14.10
PayPal Account	£448.33	£416.37	-£31.96
<b>Total of Current Balances</b>	<b>£5,979.10</b>	<b>£5,251.53</b>	<b>-£727.57</b>



## **Appendix D: Racing Secretary's Report 2017**

2017 has been a relatively quiet year for racing without Rick Froud to represent the club, few other club members rode in open events. The track sessions at Calshott have again been well supported this year and we look forward to our first club champion of 2018 in the New Year. The track championships always spill over from the previous year and provide the first and last club champion of 2016 and first of 2017 which this year resulted in.

1st Chris Clark 2nd Mike Hayward 3rd Nigel Hicks.

Rick Froud did return from his posting in Ireland to claim the two Club championships on offer while Iain Cotton's steady improvement during the year gave Rick some competition.

### **Club 10**

1<sup>st</sup> Rick Froud 21m 46s, 2<sup>nd</sup> Iain Cotton 22m 44s, 3<sup>rd</sup> Shaun Blow 23m 05s

### **Club 25**

1<sup>st</sup> Rick Froud 56m 17s, 2<sup>nd</sup> Iain Cotton 1h 03m 04s, 3<sup>rd</sup> Shaun Blow 1h 04m 08s

The Short Distance BAR has been won provisionally by Iain Cotton who was the only rider to complete the required distances this year and by putting a last minute personal best 25 of 59m 34s in the Westerly CC 25.

Iain has also won the season long League Cup competed for by 10 club members this year with 41 points from Charlie Williams on 35 and Shaun Blow and Gary Hodgson tied on 16.

The Hill Climb Championship resulted in:

1<sup>st</sup> Hamish Kuperus 3m39s 09s, 2<sup>nd</sup> Shaun Blow 3m 56s 05s, 3<sup>rd</sup> Stuart Palmer 4m 01m 02s.

Our most successful member this year, riding as 'Owens Cycles' has been Owen Pattinson himself who if I can keep up with his exploits, has won three rounds of his age group in the Wessex Cyclocross League and been well placed in two others. He also managed to win the 50+ age group of the Southern Region Cyclocross Championship.

The Open 10 again incorporated the Wessex VTTA championship and was run for the last time by Paul Jones in his usual well organised fashion. Hopefully next year Charlie Williams will be taking over with equal success.

Our Open 25 had to be cancelled this year because of the roadworks on the Farnham end of the A31, by the time we became aware of the extent of the works involved the event had already attracted a considerable number of entrants and required liaison with Road Time Trials and London West before we could officially cancel the event. Entrants had to be informed, postal entries returned, hall booking cancelled and check at the HQ on the day should any riders have still turned up.

The club committee has decided that because of the increasing number of incidents that seem to be occurring during Time Trials on the A31 over the past two seasons that we should no longer run any events over 25 miles on the course. Consequently we shall not be running an Open 25 next year or including 25 miles in our evening events during 2018.

We are only registered with London West and Road Time Trials to Run our Open 10 in 2018, unfortunately it seems that David Collard Berry has also made other arrangements for next year's Wessex VTTA championships, as I had no reply from him after informing him of our 2018 event date.

We have again attempted through Jim Parker the London West secretary to get our shortened 'Hilly' course registered so that we can run a second event early season in 2019. Meanwhile we hope to run it as a club event in 2018 to check for any unforeseen problems. So we need as many club members as possible whatever their ability to ride/marshal the course and be involved on the day even if only to watch or encourage. The provisional date is Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> of April.

Unfortunately in order to run racing events it is necessary to require the involvement of club members, as an organiser in the past I am only too aware how difficult it is to try and run an event with the bare minimum of club members volunteering to help out. Unfortunately it not only reflects on the club among the wider cycling community who tend to think that Alton CC consists of the Thursday evening regulars who keep our evening tens going during the summer, but also puts riders who in many respects we have invited to compete in our events as a club, at risk, because we cannot meet the minimum requirements of the risk assessments for the course we run them on.

Preparations for next year are already in place, with our dates for the Open 10 and our evening events registered with London West, and Bentley Hall booked for the afternoon of Saturday June 23<sup>rd</sup> a note for your diary.

**Ian Austin**

## **Appendix E: Publicity Secretary's Report - 2017**

Activities carried out during 2017 comprise:

1. Published Annual Dinner Write up and photos
2. Publicised the barbecue and collated catering requirements, shared a few photos
3. Requested volunteers for the 25 (before the cancellation)
4. Secured Rita's services for Quiz and Dinner dates
5. Publicised club nights and any rides involved
6. Publicised for the Herald summer TT series and Open events
7. Open 25 Cancellation publicised to the Herald, and to members
8. Published Newsletter
9. Organised and ran Quiz and Curry Night with Rita on catering
10. Various photos
11. Publicised various other events, charity events, spin class places, Ride London places from Iain Cotton and other communications (ladies club kit, et al)
12. Canvassed interest for the Majorca training camp
13. Begun canvassing of Darren's Alps trip
14. Set up What's App group
15. Procured the mince pies!!!

Also helped timekeeping on Open 10 and helped Alan/Dick/Eddie on summer series timekeeping.

**Jim Woods**